What is claimed is:

1.   A method for determining whether an intended use of a computational component is permitted, comprising:

(a) determining a geographic location of at least one of the computational component and a key device in communication with the computational component;

(b) comparing the geographic location with at least one predetermined geographic location permitted by the license; and

(c) when the geographic location is not a permitted geographic location under the license, determining that use of the computational component is not permitted.

2.   The method of claim 1, further comprising:

(d)   when the geographic location is a permitted geographic location under the license, determining that use of the computational component is permitted.

3.   The method of claim 1, wherein the determining step (a) comprises:

determining GPS coordinates of the at least one of the computational component and key device; and

converting the GPS coordinates into a region identifier.

4.   The method of claim 3, wherein the permitted geographic location is one or more region identifiers and wherein in the determining step (c) the geographic location is a permitted geographic location when the region identifier identified in the converting step is included in the one or more region identifiers.

5.   The method of claim 1, wherein the at least one of the computational component and a key device is the computational component.

6.   The method of claim 1, wherein the at least one of computational component and a key device is the key device.

7.   The method of claim 6, wherein the permitted use is defined by a license and further comprising:

(d) determining whether the key device is in communication with the computational component;

(e) when the key device is not in communication with the computational component, determining that the computational component is not validly licensed; and

(f) when the key device is in communication with the computational component, determining that the computational component is validly licensed.

8.   The method of claim 6, wherein the permitted use is defined by a license and further comprising:

(d) authenticating the key device;

(e) when the key device is not authenticated successfully, determining that the computational component is not validly licensed.

9.   The method of claim 6, wherein the permitted use is defined by a license and

further comprising:

(d) determining whether the key device is local to the computational component;

(e) when the key device is not local to the computational component, determining that

5   the computational component is not validly licensed.

10.   A computer readable medium comprising instructions to perform the steps

of claim 1.

11.   A logic circuit operable to perform the steps of claim 1.

12.   A system for validating a license to use a computational component, comprising:

a GPS module to determine a geographic location of at least one of the computational component and a key device in communication with the computational component; and

5   a validation agent operable to (a) compare the geographic location with at least one predetermined geographic location permitted by the license and (b) when the geographic location is not a permitted geographic location under the license, determine that the computational component is not validly licensed.

13.   The system of claim 12, wherein the validation is further operable to (c) when the geographic location is a permitted geographic location under the license, determining that the computational component is validly licensed.

14.   The system of claim 12, wherein the geographic location is initially expressed in GPS coordinates and the validation agent is further operable to (c) convert the GPS coordinates into a region identifier.

15.   The system of claim 12, wherein the permitted geographic location is one or more region identifiers and wherein the geographic location is a permitted geographic location when the region identifier is included in the at least one predetermined region identifier.

16. The system of claim 12, wherein the at least one of the computational component and a key device is the computational component.

17. The system of claim 12, wherein the at least one of computational component and a key device is the key device.

18. The system of claim 16, wherein the validation is further operable to (c) determine whether the key device is in communication with the computational component; (d) when the key device is not in communication with the computational component, determine that the computational component is not validly licensed; and (e) when the key device is in communication with the computational component, determine that the computational component is validly licensed.

19. The system of claim 16, wherein the validation agent is further operable to (c) authenticate the key device and (d) when the key device is not authenticated successfully, determining that the computational component is not validly licensed.

20. The system of claim 16, wherein the validation agent is further operable to (c) determine whether the key device is local to the computational component and (d) when the key device is not local to the computational component, determining that the computational component is not validly licensed.

21.   The system of claim 12, wherein the at least one of the computational component and a key device is the key device and wherein the validation agent is located in the key device.

22.   The system of claim 12, wherein the at least one of the computational component and a key device is the key device and wherein the validation agent is located in the computational component.

23. A method for validating a license to use a computational component, comprising:

(a) providing a key device to validate the license when in communication with the computational component;

5 (b) determining whether the key device is local to the computational component; and

(c) when the key device is not local to the computational component, determining that the computational component is not validly licensed.

24. The method of Claim 23, further comprising:

(d) determining a geographic location of at least one of the computational component and the key device in communication with the computational component;

(e) comparing the geographic location with at least one predetermined geographic

5 location permitted by the license; and

(f) when the geographic location is not a permitted geographic location under the license, determining that the computational component is not validly licensed.

25. The method of claim 24, wherein the determining step (d) comprises:

determining GPS coordinates of the at least one of the computational component and key device; and

converting the GPS coordinates into a region identifier.

26. The method of claim 24, wherein the permitted geographic location is one or more region identifiers and wherein in the determining steps (d) and (f) the geographic location is a permitted geographic location when the region identifier identified in the converting step is included in the one or more region identifiers.

27. The method of claim 26, wherein the at least one of the computational component and a key device is the computational component.

28. The method of claim 24, wherein the at least one of computational component and a key device is the key device.

29. The method of claim 28, further comprising:

(g) determining whether the key device is in communication with the computational component;

(h) when the key device is not in communication with the computational component, determining that the computational component is not validly licensed; and

(i) when the key device is in communication with the computational component, determining that the computational component is validly licensed.

30. The method of claim 28, further comprising:

(g) authenticating the key device;

(h) when the key device is not authenticated successfully, determining that the computational component is not validly licensed.

31.   The method of claim 23, wherein the key device is not local when an electronic address of the key device is not contained in a predefined set of electronic addresses.

32.   The method of claim 23, wherein the key device is not local when a time delay between the exchange of communications between the key device and computational component exceeds a selected time delay.

33.   A computer readable medium comprising instructions to perform the steps of claim 23.

34.   A logic circuit operable to perform the steps of claim 23.

35.   A method for determining whether an intended use of a computational component is permitted, comprising:

(a) receiving Global Positioning System (GPS) information from a GPS receiver, the GPS information comprising at least one of a geographic location and a clock setting, wherein the geographic location is associated with the location of at least one of the computational component and a key device in communication with the computational component;

(b) performing at least one of the following steps:

(i) comparing the geographic location with at least one predetermined geographic location permitted by the license; and

(ii) comparing the clock setting with an expiration date of the license;

(c) when the geographic location is not a permitted geographic location under the license and/or when the clock setting is outside of the permissible term of the license, determining that use of the computational component is not permitted.

36.   The method of claim 35, wherein the GPS information comprises the clock setting and wherein step (ii) is performed.

37.   The method of claim 367, further comprising:

(d)   when the clock setting is within the permissible term of the license, determining that use of the computational component is permitted.

38.   The method of claim 35, wherein the GPS information comprises the geographic location and wherein step (i) is performed.

39.   The method of claim 38, further comprising:

(d)   when the geographic location is a permitted geographic location under the license, determining that use of the computational component is permitted.

40.   The method of claim 35, wherein the at least one of the computational component and a key device is the computational component.

41.   The method of claim 35, wherein the at least one of computational component and a key device is the key device.

42.   The method of claim 35, wherein the permitted use is defined by a license and further comprising:

(d) determining whether the key device is in communication with the computational component;

5   (e) when the key device is not in communication with the computational component, determining that the computational component is not validly licensed; and

(f) when the key device is in communication with the computational component, determining that the computational component is validly licensed.

43.   The method of claim 35, wherein the permitted use is defined by a license and further comprising:

(d) authenticating the key device;

(e) when the key device is not authenticated successfully, determining that the

5   computational component is not validly licensed.

44.   The method of claim 35, wherein the permitted use is defined by a license and further comprising:

(d) determining whether the key device is local to the computational component;

(e) when the key device is not local to the computational component, determining that

5   the computational component is not validly licensed.

45.   A computer readable medium comprising instructions to perform the steps of claim 35.

46.   A logic circuit operable to perform the steps of claim 35.